

EXHIBIT A
LISTING OF ALL CLAIMS AND AMENDMENTS
(05-16-2005)

Amendments to the claims

Claim 1 (currently amended)

1. A clip assembly for sheet materials comprising:
a clip member defining a hinge portion, first and second finger portions extending from the hinge portion, and a ratchet portion formed on at least one of the first and second finger portions, where
the clip member is made of resilient material such that the clip member may be deformed from a normally open configuration into a closed position, and
the first and second finger portions do not engage each other when the clip member is in the open configuration and the first and second finger portions engage each other when the clip member is in the closed position; and
a collar member defining a latch portion, a lever portion, a latch opening, and a housing interior, where
the collar member is made of resilient material such that applying a force to the lever portion causes the collar member to deform from a normally engaged configuration to a disengaged configuration, and
the latch portion extends into the housing interior through the latch opening when the collar member is in the engaged configuration and is withdrawn from the housing interior through the latch opening when the collar member is in the disengaged configuration; whereby
the clip member extends through the housing interior such that
when the collar member is in a first position relative to the clip member, the clip member is in the open configuration;
when the collar member is in a second position relative to the clip member, the collar member acts on the clip member to place the clip member in the closed configuration; and
when the collar member is in the engaged configuration, the latch portion

engages the ratchet portion to allow movement of the collar member towards the second position and inhibit movement of the collar member towards the first position, and
when the collar member is in the disengaged configuration, the collar member may move between the first and second positions.

Claim 2 (currently amended)

2. A clip ~~member~~assembly as recited in claim 1, in which:
the collar member further comprises a belt portion; and
the first and second finger portions define first and second gripping portions,
respectively; whereby
when the collar member is in the second position, the belt portion extends around
the first and second finger portions at a location adjacent to the first and
second gripping portions.

Claim 3 (currently amended)

3. A clip ~~member~~assembly as recited in claim 1, in which:
the first and second finger portions define first and second gripping portions,
respectively; and
at least one of the first and second gripping portions defines a line notch adapted
to receive an edge line of the sheet material.

Claim 4 (currently amended)

4. A clip ~~member~~assembly as recited in claim 1, in which:
the first and second finger portions define first and second gripping portions,
respectively;
at least one of the first and second gripping portions defines a line notch adapted
to receive an edge line of the sheet material; and
at least one of the first and second gripping portions define~~defines at least one a~~
line tooth; whereby
the line tooth defines at least a portion of a line projection adapted to engage the
edge line of the sheet material.

Claim 5 (canceled)

Claim 6 (currently amended)

6. A clip ~~member~~assembly as recited in claim 1, in which:
the first and second finger portions define first and second gripping portions,
respectively;
the first and second gripping portions define first and second sets of gripping
teeth, where the gripping teeth each define first and second slanted
surfaces and teeth points; whereby
when the clip member is in the closed configuration, at least some of the teeth
points of the teeth in the first set engage slanted surfaces of the teeth in
the second set.

Claim 7 (currently amended)

7. A clip ~~member~~assembly as recited in claim 1, in which:
the first and second finger portions define first and second gripping portions,
respectively;
the first and second gripping portions define first and second sets of gripping
teeth, where the gripping teeth are curved; whereby
when the clip member is in the closed configuration, the gripping teeth engage
the sheet material.

Claim 8 (original)

8. A method of gripping sheet materials comprising the steps of:
providing a clip member made of resilient material and defining a hinge portion,
first and second finger portions extending from the hinge portion, and a
ratchet portion;
providing a collar member made of resilient material and defining a latch portion,
a lever portion, a latch opening, and a housing interior;
arranging the clip member within the housing interior of the collar member such
that the collar member may be in first and second positions relative to the

clip member, where, when the collar member is in the first position, the clip member is in an open configuration in which the first and second finger portions are not forced towards each other and, when the collar member is in the second position, the collar member forces the first and second finger portions towards each other to place the clip member in a closed configuration;

configuring the collar member such that the collar member is normally in an engaged configuration in which the latch portion extends into the housing interior through the latch opening and applying a force on the lever portion of the collar member places the collar member in a disengaged configuration in which the latch portion is withdrawn from the housing interior through the latch opening;

arranging the sheet material between the first and second finger portions; and placing the clip member in the second position and the latch portion in the engaged configuration such that latch portion engages ratchet portion and the first and second finger portions grip the sheet material.

Claim 9 (original)

9. A method as recited in claim 8, further comprising the steps of:
placing the latch portion in the disengaged configuration such that the latch portion does not engage the ratchet portion; and
releasing the sheet material by moving the collar member into the first position to allow the first and second finger portions to move away from each other.

Claim 10 (original)

10. A method as recited in claim 9, further comprising the steps of forming first and second gripping portions, respectively.

Claim 11 (original)

11. A method as recited in claim 10, further comprising the steps of forming a line notch is adapted to receive an edge line of the sheet material on at least one of the first and second gripping portions.

Claim 12 (original)

12. A method as recited in claim 10, further comprising the step of forming first and second sets of gripping teeth on the first and second gripping portions, respectively.

Claim 13 (original)

13. A method as recited in claim 10, further comprising the step of forming first and second sets of curved gripping teeth on the first and second gripping portions, respectively.

Claim 14 (new)

14. A clip for sheet materials comprising:
a clip member defining a hinge portion, first and second finger portions extending from the hinge portion, and a ratchet portion formed on at least one of the first and second finger portions, where
the clip member is made of resilient material such that the clip member may be deformed from a normally open configuration into a closed position, and
the first and second finger portions do not engage each other when the clip member is in the open configuration and the first and second finger portions engage each other when the clip member is in the closed position; and
a collar member defining a latch portion, a lever portion, a latch opening, and a housing interior, where
the collar member is made of resilient material such that applying a force to the lever portion causes the collar member to deform from a normally engaged configuration to a disengaged configuration, and
the latch portion extends into the housing interior through the latch opening when the collar member is in the engaged configuration and is withdrawn from the housing interior through the latch opening when the collar member is in the disengaged configuration;
whereby

the clip member extends through the housing interior such that

- when the collar member is in a first position relative to the clip member, the clip member is in the open configuration;
- when the collar member is in a second position relative to the clip member, the collar member acts on the clip member to place the clip member in the closed configuration; and
- when the collar member is in the engaged configuration, the latch portion engages the ratchet portion to allow movement of the collar member towards the second position and inhibit movement of the collar member towards the first position, and
- when the collar member is in the disengaged configuration, the collar member may move between the first and second positions; and

the first and second finger portions define first and second gripping portions, respectively;

at least one of the first and second gripping portions defines a line notch adapted to receive an edge line of the sheet material; and

at least one of the first and second gripping portions defines a line tooth; whereby the line tooth defines at least a portion of a line projection adapted to engage the edge line of the sheet material;

the first and second gripping portions define first and second line notches, respectively;

the first and second gripping portions define first and second line teeth, respectively; and

the first and second line teeth define a line projection adapted to engage the edge line of the sheet material.